## SEOC

## Statewide Education Organizing Committee Inc.

## **Asbury Park Parent Listening Project - SEOC**

Ja'Lisa Thompson 406 Neptune Blvd Neptune, NJ 07753 732-774-7428

January 21, 2009

To: New Jersey State Board of Education Re: Proposed High School Redesign Plan

My name is Ja'Lisa Thompson. I am a 7<sup>th</sup> grade honor student at Neptune Middle School, and am a part of the SEOC Asbury Park Parent Listening Project. I appreciate the opportunity to talk to you today about my concerns with your High School Redesign Plan.

I don't think High School Redesign is fair because you are setting us up for failure. Some kids can barely pass the classes they are taking now. Others can barely read at their ideal reading level. There are 9<sup>th</sup> graders reading at a 7<sup>th</sup> grade level.

I think adding more of a challenge to students in New Jersey is going to result in a smaller percentage of students graduating from High School. Many students are barely making it through now. Before passing this plan for High School Redesign please think about how this affects the High School students lives.

Thank you very much for your time.